

NATIONAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY COUNCIL  
COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
**SUBCOMMITTEE ON DISASTER REDUCTION**  
**CHARTER**

**Vision**

A disaster resilient America.

**Mission and Objectives**

The Subcommittee on Disaster Reduction (SDR) is charged with facilitating and promoting natural and technological disaster mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery. The SDR provides a senior-level interagency forum to leverage expertise, inform policy-makers, promote technology applications, coordinate activities, and promote excellence in research. The SDR mission encompasses catastrophic and non-catastrophic hazards, whether domestic or foreign, natural or technological in origin.

The SDR facilitates U.S. Government and private/academic activities to reduce vulnerability to natural and technological hazards through:

- Establishing clear national goals for Federal science and technology investments in disaster reduction;
- Coordinating national research goals and activities for Federal research related to natural and technological hazards and disasters;
- Identifying and coordinating opportunities for the U.S. Government to coordinate and collaborate with state, local, and foreign governments, international organizations and private/academic/industry groups;
- Providing information to the President and the Administration to summarize relevant resources and work within SDR agencies;
- Providing information to the President and the Administration and Congress in response to current disaster situations;
- Communicating with Administration officials, Congress, NGO's, and other policy development bodies;
- Promoting disaster reduction practices;
- Facilitating the exploitation of dual-use systems and fusion of classified and unclassified data streams and research for disaster reduction applications.

**Membership**

The SDR is constituted under the National Science and Technology Council (NSTC) and membership in the SDR is by NSTC invitation. Nominations for SDR leadership positions are submitted by the Secretary or Administrator of selected Federal agencies whom the NSTC invites to participate in the nomination process. The Chair, the Vice-Chair for Policy, and the Vice-Chair for Science and Technology are each selected by the Co-chairs of the NSTC Committee on the Environment and Natural Resources and serve a three-year term. Lead agency representatives to the SDR are renewed annually at the Secretary or Administrator level.

**Administration**

The SDR functions through monthly meetings of the full membership; interim meetings of the working groups; ongoing communication via briefings and other mechanisms; development of an annual operating plan and associated activities; development of white papers; hosting of, and participation in, workshops and other fora; and communication with key Administration, Congressional, and private sector/academic representatives.